

Whitehall Sept: 13. 1766

Sir W^m Johnson

Sir

Your Letter of 28 of June respecting the Discontents prevailing among the Indians, I have had the Honour to lay before the King, & I have the pleasure to inform you, that His Majesty very highly approves your Conduct & Prudence in the management of that Department which has been intrusted to your Care

His Majesty is greatly displeased that so many Frauds & Violences should have been committed on the Indian Tribes under His Protection, & that settlements should be made so contrary to the Intention of His Proclamation of 1763; I have in Command to recommend to you, in the strongest Manner, that you will take every measure that Prudence can suggest to appease for the Present the too just resentment of the Indian Tribes. It appears necessary that some General Plan formed upon the Principle of Justice as well as Policy should be adopted for restraining in future those settlements & for preventing effectually the Frauds & Irregularities of the Traders which should [1.3] be carried firmly & steadily into Execution, but as such plan ought to be well digested before the Execution of it is attempted, His Majesty relies in the mean time upon your known Experience & Prudence

& upon the effect of those Letters which He has ordered to be transmitted by this Packet to Major Genl. Gage & His Gov^r on the Continent, representing the Evils which may arise from the present Irregularities, & enquiring them to cooperate towards enforcing Obedience to, & carrying into strict Execution, His Majesty's Proclamation, which if duly attended to might have been effectual for the Prevention of those Evils; The Violences & Irregularities of the Traders & Settlers cannot & must not be endured: The settlement at Red Stone Creek made as you observe out of the Boundaries of any Province is a striking instance of the Temerity of those Settlers. But it is hoped that the measures which you may take & the co-operation of the Commander in chief & Gov^r will for the present suspend the Evils you apprehend untill more regulated measures can be taken, which will speedily come under His Majesty's Consideration

I am &c | Shelburne

[14]

John Stuart Esq
Superintendent of
Indian Affairs for
the Southern District.

Sir,

Whitehall Sept^r 13th 1766

The Letters which you have transmitted to

the Board of Trade respecting the Discontents prevail-
ing among the Indians I have had the Honor to
lay before His Majesty, who is highly displeased that
so many Frauds & Violences should be committed on the
Indians under His Protection, & that settlements should
be made so contrary to the Intention of His Procla-
mation of 1763, & I have His Majesty's Orders to sig-
nify to you His Approbation of your Conduct & to
recommend to you in the Strongest Terms that you
will take every measure that Prudence can suggest to
oppose for the Present the too just Resentment of
the Indian Tribes. It is necessary that some general
plan formid upon the Principles of Justice as well
as Policy should be adopted for restraint in future
those Settlements & for preventing effectually the Frauds
and Irregularities of the Traders & which should be
carried firmly into Execution. — I have wrote by the
present New York Mail, by His Majesty's Command, to
Major Genl Gage & the Gov^r on the Continent, represent-
ing the Evils which may arise from the Present Ir-
regularities & requiring them to cooperate towards en-
forcing Obedience to His Majesty's Proclamation & pre-
venting as much as possible the Evils which you
so much apprehend. In the mean time & till more
regulated measures can be taken it is hoped that
your Prudence in the Department intrusted to you,

facilitated by the Commander in Chief & the Civil Government in the Provinces, will be able to suspend the ill-consequences of those Irregularities which must very speedily be finally prevented

I am &c

Shelburne

Whitehall Oct: 11th 1766

Sir William Johnson
(N.Y.)

Sir

His Majesty has thought fit to refer to the Lords of Trade & Plantations the case of the four Indians of the Happinger & Stockbridge Tribes who arrived lately in England their Lordships after remarking on the Frauds which have usually attended the purchases made from the Indians, & on the unnecessary severity [N.Y.] discovered by the Lt Gov^r & Council of New York, in directing Prosecutions against the Guardian, Agents & Protectors of these particular Indians have reported it as their Opinion, that there is foundation for further Examination into the state of the facts & Proceedings upon which their Complaint is grounded, &

I have wrote by this Packet to Sir Henry Moore, by His Majesty's commands, recommend^d to him, in the strongest terms, that he will take into His most serious consideration the case of these distressed People, & turn his thoughts to every possible measure that may tend to obtain for them in any shape a just & Speedy Satisfaction.

If you find cause to believe that these people have been injuriously treated & deprived of their Lands by fraud & circumvention under pretence of undue & unreasonable Grants on pretended or inequitable Purchases; you will doubtless take every measure that lies in your Power towards procuring them such a Satisfaction as the Nature of the thing will admit^[17] of & afford them in General, the benefit of your countenance and Protection

I am &c

Shelburne

P. S. You will perceive that I have marked this Letter with Number One I shall continue to number all my Letters, & shall beg the favor of you to conform to the same Regulation, in which I see no possible Evil, & think it will be attended with several Conveniences in ascertaining the Receipt of Letters.

Whitehall Decr 11th 1766

(N^o 2)

Sir W^m Johnson

Sir

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the King, who approves of your conduct in every respect, has been graciously pleased to appoint Mr Shuckburgh to the Office you desired for him, immediately upon your Recommendation.

It is at present under the Deliberation of His Majesty's Ministers to regulate Indian Affairs upon the most solid & lasting Footing, so as to answer the purposes of Commerce & Peace. - The Importance of the Subject demands, that it should be extremely well weighed & digested before adopted, and till this can be effected it is hoped that the Prudence of the Commander in Chief & the Superintendants will supply the Want of fixed Regulations, and obviate every temporary Inconvenience.

The Plan which you refer to, for the better Management of Indian Affairs requires nice Examination, being of a very dubious Nature in many of its most essential Points.

Mr Stuart, Superintendant for the Southern District, having requested that Instructions might be given to the different Governors to correspond with

the Superintendants, I have had the Kings Com-
mands to acquaint him that it will answer suf-
ficiently that the regular & fixed correspondence of
the Superintendants be with the Commander in Chief
of His Majesty's Forces. The System of Indian Affairs as
managed by Superintendants must ultimately be under
his Direction; the different Governors can scarcely be
supposed to co-incide in Opinion, nor is it possible
for so many to act in concert. It is therefore Ne-
cessary that the Superintendants should take the
Orders of the Commander in Chief on all material
Occasions, who being ^[p. 10] settled in the Center of the
Colonies will carry on the correspondence of the Gov-
ernors on all such interesting Points as shall be
communicated to him; and as he will be very
particularly instructed by Administration he must
be looked upon as a proper Medium of material in-
telligence either to or from England or the Colonies;
at the same time the Superintendants are to con-
vey every sort of material Intelligence, directly here,
and to correspond as Occasion may require with the
Governors of the different Provinces in their District,
and His Majesty being highly satisfied with Major
General Gage, as well as entirely so with the In-
tegrity & Ability of your conduct, promises to him ^[p. 11]
self very happy Effects from the Harmony which

undoubtedly will subsist between him & you, and he has a firm Reliance on your combined Efforts being so properly exerted as to do great Service to your Country, and great Honour to Yourself.

I am very glad to find that the Boundary has been run in the Southern District behind the Province of South Carolina, to the Satisfaction of the Cherokee, and I hope the same will be completed behind North Carolina & Virginia.

Much greater Inconveniences have arisen from the Misbehaviour of Indian Traders in the Southern than in the Northern District; but when once the Irregularities of these Men can be restrained for the future, & some of the most culpable among them punished, it will not be so difficult a Task as is generally imagined to conciliate entirely the Minds of the Indians, as soon as they find that their Boundaries are not encroached upon; that they are not cheated in their Dealings, that Frauds when committed are punished, that strict Justice is done to them upon all Occasions, and that we really mean to cherish & protect them, they will naturally be led to look up to us as their Guardians & Defenders, and we shall become not only the Arbiters of their Differences, but the only Refuge they will think of seeking in their Distress.

This is a System as much superior in sound Policy, as it is in Humanity, to that of spiriting up one Tribe to cut the Throats of ^[p. 12] another, and therefore the Request of the Cherokee for our Mediation towards a peace with the Northern Indians is not only reasonable, but affords a happy Opportunity for the commencement of this System which cannot be too soon adopted.

I cannot conclude this Letter without congratulating You upon the late peace made with the Indians & the good temper in which you sent them away from the last Congress with Pondiac. The principles of your conduct had a great share in procuring these Advantages, as I am persuaded they will have in insuring the continuance of them.

I am, &c

Shelburne

P. S.

In your future Despatches I would recommend to You to give every separate Subject a separate Letter.

[p. 13]

Whitehall Dec 11th 1766

(N^o. 1)

John Stuart Esq.
Agent & Superinten-
dant for Indian
affairs in the
Southern District.

Sir

I have reced Your Letter from South Carolina dated 8th Aug^r 1766, which I have

had the Honor to lay before the King. In my Letter of the 13th Sept^r I acquainted you how much His Majesty was displeased at the many Frauds & Violences committed against the Indians under His Protection. You may judge how much that Displeasure must be increased by every Packett bringing fresh Accounts of other Irregularities of the same Nature.

I am very glad to find that the Boundary has been run behind the Province of South Carolina, to the contentment of the Cherokeees, & I must recommend it to you, in the strongest Manner, to keep a most Watchfull Eye, that no Encroachments may be made upon those Indians for the future. The sooner & the more equitably the Line is continued behind the other Provinces, particularly North Carolina, & Virginia, the sooner we shall reap the Benefit of it; You will therefore proceed to this Work, without Loss of time, in concert with the Gov^{rs} of those Provinces, who will no doubt cooperate with you in whatever measures are requisite to effect so usefull a purpose.

When once the Irregularities of the Traders can be restrained for the future & some of the most culpable among them punished, it will / I make no doubt be an easier Matter than is commonly imagined, to conciliate entirely the Minds of the Indians: Proper

[p. 15]

Regulations for that end will shortly be adopted, but I hope upon a different Principle from that of setting them at Variance with each other; as soon as the Indians find that their Boundaries are not encroached upon, that they are not cheated in their dealings, that Frauds when committed are punished, that strict Justice is done to them on all Occasions, & that we really mean to cherish & protect them, they will naturally be led to look up to us as their Guardians & Defenders, & we shall become not only the Arbiters of their Differences, but the only Refuge they will think of seeking in their Distress.

This is a System as much superior in sound Policy, as it is in humanity, to that of spurring up one Tribe to cut the Throats of another, & therefore the Request of the Cherokees, for a Mediation towards a peace with the Northern Indians, is not only reasonable but affords a happy Opportunity, for the commencement of a System which cannot too soon be entered into.

I am sorry to find that no Reparation has yet been made by the Province of Virginia, for the Murder of the nine Cherokees, killed by the back settlers of that Province; if it should not be done before you receive this, You must renew your Applications to the Gov^r; who will have need Directions

on that head: at the same time you must repre-
[p. 16] send the Chiefs of the Cherokeees, in a very serious
style, for the Treacherous Murder of Mr. Boyd, & let
them know how little Right they can have either
to our Notice or Protection, if they take that satis-
faction of themselves, which they must at all times
wait for, & which they will be sure to receive, from
our Justice. Altho' Indians they cannot be at a loss
to know that the Murder of a Man sent to them
in a public Capacity is a Crime of the deepest dye,
& that they would Merit the severest Chastisement,
if we did not attribute their Misbehaviour to the
Revenge & Indiscretion of a few, rather than to the
bulk of their Nation.

His Majesty approves of the pains you take
to avoid a Rupture with the Creeks, & of the Rea-
sons you give why any Hostilities against these
Indians must have a very bad effect. Gov. Grant
writes to the very same purpose, & adds several
very conclusive Arguments, drawn from the Situation
& present State of the Southern Infant Colonies. I
cannot therefore recommend it too strongly to you
to take every measure possible to conciliate the Af-
fections of the Indians in General to restrain the
Traders as much as possible from going among them,
untill the proper Regulations shall take place, to

find out who the Delinquents are who fill the Minds of the Savages with Prejudices & Lies to our Disadvantage, & to take care if they cannot be severely punished, that they shall be excluded from licences, & all Privileges of Trade for the future. - If the Discontent of the Mortar (or Otis Mico) arises only from the high Prices ^[p. 7] of the different Articles of Indian Commodities, a little Indulgence & Fair Words will easily set him Right. We have indeed no complaints from East Florida where this Method seems to be pursued.

As to what you propose of Instructions to be given to the Gov^t to correspond with the Superintendants, His Maty thinks it will Answer sufficiently that Your regular & fixed Correspondence be with the Commander in Chief of His Matys Forces, the System of Indian Affairs as managed by the Superintendants must ultimately be under His Direction the different Gov^{ts} can scarcely be supposed to coincide in Opinion nor is it possible for so many to Act. in Concert. You are therefore to take the orders of the Commander in Chief on all interesting Occasions, who being settled in the Center of the Colonies will carry on the Correspondence with the Gov^t on all such points as are out of the Course of Business & as he will be very particularly instructed by Administration You are to look upon him as a proper Medium of material

Intelligence either to or from England, or the Colonies, At the same time You are to convey every sort of material Intelligence directly to me & to correspond with the Gov^r of the different Provinces in Your District as occasion offers or may require.

The Plan for the Management of Indian Affairs, part of which you too hastily adopted in West Florida is now, & has been for some time under consideration. The Expence incurred by it for Ser-
vices very inadequate is not one of the least Ob-
jections to it, & I am very sorry to be obliged on this Occasion to observe to you that the Expences of Your District run so much above all Expectation & Proportion that it is very necessary you should attend to this point very minutely for the future many of the Articles of this Plan are of such a Dubious Nature in regard of the true Interest of this Country & its Commerce, & others not so clearly calculated as could be wished for the Purposes intended, that it cannot by any means take place, at least in its full extent. I have already mentioned that another will shortly come under consideration which will it is hoped remedy the Evils complained of & answer all the valuable Purposes of Commerce & Peace the Importance of it however demands that it be extremely well digested & weighed;

Till this can be effected it is hoped that the
Prudence of the Commander in Chief & the Super-
intendants; will supply the want of fixed Regula-
tions & obviate all temporary Inconveniences

I am &c

Shelburne.

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Whitehall Feb^r 19. 1767.

Sir Will^m Johnson.

N^o 3 ✓

Sir,

His Majesty has heard with great Surprise
and Displeasure that the Governor of West Florida
has resolved on, and has taken Measures for com-
mencing Hostilities against the Creeks without receiv-
ing Instructions from hence, or even waiting for
Answers to Letters which he had wrote hither up-
on that Subject. This has been a Step of so rash
and unadvised a Nature, that His Majesty has thought
fit to recall him from his Government, which will de-
volve, untill another Governor can be sent out, which
will be very speedily, upon Mountford Browne Esq^r
the present Lieut. Governor, to whom, as well as to

Major Genl Sage, & the Governors of the more Southern Provinces, I have communicated His Majesty's Intentions of having this Imprudent Measure remedied with all possible Diligence & have directed them to co-operate for the restoring of Peace as soon as with Propriety & consistency it can be effected.

His Majesty, as well from the Justice, as Clemency of his Nature, is desirous of affording the Indian Tribes an effectual Protection, & of cherishing a People with every Mark of Favor, & Condescension who have been hitherto treated, as you, Sir, have observed, with too little Lenity & Attention, & have been thereby probably provoked to Irregularities, & [120] Violences, which tho' they cannot be justified, may be well accounted for.

Upon this Occasion, it cannot be doubted, but that you will inculcate into the Minds of the Indians in your Department, those Sentiments which may make them most worthy of His Majesty's Favor, & that you will co-operate by your Advice and Assistance, in terminating the Hostilities, which have been already commenced, & in composing the Inquietudes which must have prevailed upon this Occasion among the Indian Tribes, I have signified to M^r. Stuart, the Superintendant for the Southern District, His Majesty's Permission for holding a Congress, for the final

Adjustment of the present Disorders, if such a Measure shall be thought absolutely necessary for that purpose.

Since Writing the above, your Letter dated, December 16th. has been received. The sailing of the Paquet leaves me time to say little more, than to acknowledge the Receipt.

I have the Pleasure to acquaint You that the Grant you have desired, is under Consideration, & that I have great Reason to believe that His Majesty is disposed to show you this Distinguished Mark of Approbation, for your Activity & Integrity in His Service.

I am &c.

Shelburne.

[P. 20]

Whitehall Feby 17th 1767

John Stuart Esq:

(N^o 1)

Sir,

My last Letters will have informed you, how very disagreeable to His Majesty every Measure must be, which in any wise tends to interrupt that Harmony, which has been so lately Established, & to

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rekindle a War, which is scarcely terminated, between the Southern Indians, & His Majesty's Subjects of N^o America. It could not therefore but give great Surprise, as well as Displeasure to the King, to hear that the Governor of West Florida had taken upon him, without waiting for Instructions, or even for Answers to His Letters on this Subject, to resolve on a War against the Creeks, & that at a Time when the Governor of East Florida represents these very Indians as well disposed towards the Inhabitants of that Province; & while you too, in all your Letters, seem very sensible of the bad Policy of such a Step. By His Majesty's Commands, I have written particularly to the Governors of East & West Florida, Georgia & S^c Carolina to take every proper Measure to put an End to these Hostilities, & to restore Peace & Harmony between these Indians, & the Inhabitants of those Provinces. You will therefore correspond regularly with them, & take every Method possible to bring about this desirable Event. A Congress ought to be avoided if possible, but if that Measure is thought absolutely
[p. 22] necessary to remove their Fears and Apprehensions, it may be taken; Provided always that as little Expence may be incurred as the Nature of The Thing will admit; and this will principally fall within your Department. As it is impossible at this Distance,

& uninformed of the Measures hitherto pursued, to give positive Directions in what manner these things ought to be effected; it must therefore be left to your Discretion, aided by the Advice of the different Governors, how to conduct yourself. If you can convince the Indians, that His Majesty disapproves of the Steps taken against them, & that he interferes in their Behalf from clemency towards them, & not from any Apprehensions of the Mischief which they can do, you will no doubt easily succeed. His Majesty expects much from your Prudence on this Occasion, & from that Influence which you have acquired among the Southern Indians. I must recommend to you to be particularly careful in restraining the Traders, & other loose & irregular People, who are so instrumental in debauching the Minds of these Indians.

Since the Writing the above, a Letter has been received from Genl Sage, Inclosing Extracts from Col: Taylor's Letters to him dated Pensacola Nov: 30th, giving an Account, that he had taken such Measures, as he had the greatest Reason to hope would effectually prevent a War with the Creeks, in which case a Congress will be rendered altogether unnecessary. His Maty highly approves Col: Taylor's Conduct, & I flatter myself, if he has succeeded so far, that every

& uninformed of the Measures hitherto pursued, to give positive Directions in what manner these things ought to be effected; it must therefore be left to your Discretion, aided by the Advice of the different Governors, how to conduct yourself. - If you can convince the Indians, that His Majesty disapproves of the Steps taken against them, & that he interferes in their Behalf from clemency towards them, & not from any Apprehensions of the Mischief which they can do, you will no doubt easily succeed. His Majesty expects much from your Prudence on this Occasion, & from that Influence which you have acquired among the Southern Indians. - I must recommend to you to be particularly careful in restraining the Traders, & other loose & irregular People, who are so instrumental in debauching the Minds of these Indians.

Since the Writing the above, a Letter has been received from Gen^l Sage, Inclosing Extracts from Col^l: Taylor's Letters to him dated Pensacola Nov^r: 30th, giving an Account, that he had taken such Measures, as he had the greatest Reason to hope would effectually prevent a War with the Creeks, in which case a Congress will be rendered altogether unnecessary. His Maty highly approves Col^l: Taylor's Conduct, & I flatter myself, if he has succeeded so far, that every

Step will have been taken before the Receipt
of this, in consequence of my former Letters
for preserving the Peace upon a safe & re-
spectable footing, & that another System of
Policy in regard to the Indians has been
adopted.

I am &c

Shelburne.

Whitehall April 11th 1767

Genl. Holland Esq^r

Surveyor General.

Sir,

The House of Commons having Voted sev-
eral Sums for the Civil Establishment of His
Majesty's Colonies in America, & for making Gen-
eral Surveys in America from 24th June 1766,
to 24. June 1767; I am directed by the Earl
of Shelburne to transmit to you a copy of
the Estimate for the General Surveys, which
you will observe differs from that of last
year by a Reduction of 182. 10. -, that Sum
having been placed on the Estimate of last

Under cover to
Lord W. Campbell

C.O.5:225

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year for expediting the Survey of Cape Breton, which
service you have completed

I am re. L. Maclean.

Mr De Brahm Esq.
Surveyor General.

A like Letter to William De Brahm Esq. (at St.
Augustine) with the alteration is instead of You have

[p. 24]
Whitehall 20th June 1767

Sir William Johnson

(N. 4) ✓

Sir,

Your Letters of the 15th Jan^y and 1st April
have been laid before the King, and it is with
Pleasure I am again to signify to you His Majes-
ty's entire Approbation of your Conduct, and His
Reliance on your Prudence and Ability to prevent the
growth of Abuses in your Department, till the Sys-
tem of Regulations which I mentioned to you in
my former Letters can be finally settled. This is a
measure of so great Importance as to require the
utmost Deliberation, in the course of which all

Informations transmitted by you will be duly attended to. An Exception to the Rules observed in the other Provinces might I should think be safely allowed, till a final Arrangement can be taken in favor of the Traders from Canada, who as you observe in your Letter to me of 16th Decr. 1766, might be permitted to go North of the Ottawa River & the Lakes Superior, Huron, and Michigan, ¹⁷²⁵ under proper Restrictions & Recognizances. Governor Carleton indeed is so much convinced of the necessity of this, that he is of Opinion the Trade of Canada will be very materially prejudiced in case the same Liberty of Trading up the River is not granted to the Inhabitants of that Province under proper Restrictions, as was allowed them under the Government of the French, when as he says, it was usual to carry Goods in Canoes many hundred Leagues beyond Michilimackinac. If Mr. Carleton has not been misinformed in this account, it is very certain that many Advantages may be obtained by extending our Commerce among those Savages who reside at a Distance too great to allow their visiting, much less Trading with our Posts. As he wishes to give you the fullest Intelligence of everything respecting the Indian Trade in his Province and is very desirous of receiving

the Information which your Experience enables you to give in Matters of which you are so fully ^[p. v.] Master, I have recommended / to him to correspond very regularly with you

It appears to me, from the fullest Attention I have been able to give the Subject, that the Abuse committed in the Indian Trade and the Disorders in the Back Settlements have had their Source principally in the fraudulent Purchases and Grants from the Natives, which have so long been suffered, and even countenanced in too many Instances by His Majesty's Governors, from shamefull Motives of self Interest very unbecoming their Station; And it is with concern I observe that there are some late Instances of the like pernicious, though I hope uncountenanced, Practices. The Settlements lately projected near the Ohio by Persons from Maryland and Virginia, as appears by your last Letter, and that of the 15th Jan^y to the Board of Trade, are so injurious to the Indians, so detrimental to the Interests of His Majesty's Provinces, and such an audacious Defiance of his Royal Authority repeatedly signified both in Proclamations, and Instructions to His Gov^{rs}. ^[p. vi.] ernors and Superintendants, that they / can by no means be permitted; and every Attempt towards the making of them should be speedily checked, and

the Design effectually prevented. For this purpose Genl Gage will cheerfully co-operate with you, and will be ready to furnish every necessary Assistance.

Orders will be given to the Governor and Attorney General of New York to bring to Trial as soon as possible, the Causes depending against certain Persons for Intrusion on the Crown Lands &c. and to terminate without delay the Affair of the extravagant Grant of Kayaderossenos.

I am &c

Shelburne.

Whitehall Dec^r: 19th: 1767.

Sir Will^m: Johnson

(N^o: 5)

Sir,

Your Letters N^o: 4. and 5, with the State of the Trade, Politics & Proceedings of the Indians in the Northern District, have been duly received and laid before the King; And I have great Pleasure in conveying to you His Majesty's entire Approbation of the zeal and Attention ^[p.29] with which you persevere in the Discharge of your Duty.

The completion of a Boundary Line between the

several Provinces, and the Indian Hunting Grounds, being a Matter so essential for the Preservation of Peace and Harmony with those People; I was in hopes to have sent you by this Conveyance positive Instructions for effecting this necessary Work without Loss of Time. But as so many different Interests are concerned in this Affair, The Lords Comm^{rs} of Trade have been obliged to postpone their Report for a few Days in order that such a final Determination may be taken upon it as will be liable to no future Objection. - You may therefore expect by the first Packet such Instructions on this Head as will enable you to set about it very early in the Spring; and in the mean time you will do well to convey the proper Intelligence to the different Tribes of Indians concerned, that they may be ready to co-operate with you in bringing it to a Conclusion.

I am ve^{ly} |

Shelburne.

[7.29]
Whitehall January 5th 1768.

Sir Will^m Johnson.

(N^o 6)

Sir,

Agreeable to my Letter of the 19th ultimo, I now have

the Honor of signifying to you His Majesty's Commands that the Boundary Line between the several Provinces and the various Indian Tribes, be completed without Loss of Time, conformable to a Report of the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, a copy of which is herewith transmitted.

It is His Majesty's Pleasure, that before you enter upon this Matter, you settle, in concert with the commander in chief of the Army, what Steps it may [p. 30] be proper to take for the General Execution of this salutary Measure; and it will also be proper to consult with the different Governors concerning such particular Points as may affect the several Provinces separately, in order that the Work may be carried through with Cordiality and Dispatch.

I am ver.

Shelburne